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Reply to Office Action of February 22, 2007

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for dynamic group call from a first user to a group of second users via a network including a server, the method for dynamic group call comprising the steps of:

specifying a predetermined limit as to a number of second users permitted to join the group;

dynamically selecting, by the first user without the network, a selected user for inclusion in the group of second users;

determining whether a number of selected second users is within the predetermined limit;

if the number of selected second users is within the predetermined limit, adding by the first user the selected user to the group of second users;

forwarding the group to the network for validation,

receiving a group identification for the group; and

establishing a group call between the first user and the group after the group is validated and the first user receives the group identification.

2. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 1, wherein there is further included a step of determining by the first user that the member is to be added to the group of second users.

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3. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 1, wherein if the number of selected second users is not within the predetermined limit, there is further included a step of providing a message to the first user indicating a fault.

4. (Previously Presented) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of adding by the first user includes a step of transmitting the list of second users by the first user to the second user and to the network.

5. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 4, wherein there is further included a step of storing the member in a database corresponding to the dynamic group call.

6. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 1, wherein there is further included a step of creating the network a group identity.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for dynamic group call from a first user to a group of second users via a network including a server, the method for dynamic group call comprising the steps of:

specifying a predetermined limit as to a number of second users permitted to join the group;

dynamically selecting, by the first user without the network or the server, a selected group of second users;

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determining whether a number of the selected group of second users is within the predetermined limit;

if the number of selected second users is within the predetermined limit, adding by the first user the selected group of second users;

forwarding the group to the network for validation,

receiving a group identification for the group and

establishing a group call between the first user and the group after the group is validated and the first user receives the group identification.

8. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 7, wherein there is further included a step of determining by the first user that the dynamic group call is adding the group of second users.

9. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 7, wherein if the selected number of second users is not within the predetermined limit, there is further included a step of providing a message to the first user indicating a fault.

10. (Previously Presented) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 7, wherein the step of adding by the first user includes a step of transmitting the list of second users by the first user to the selected second user and to the network.

11. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 10, wherein there is further included a step of storing the group of second users in a database.

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12. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 7, wherein there is further included a step of creating the network a group identity.

13. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 7, wherein there is further included a step of determining whether a number of users exceeds a predetermined limit.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for dynamic group call from a first user to a group of second users via a network including a server, the method for dynamic group call comprising the steps of:

dynamically sending a list complete message by the first user to the network;

validating, by the network, a dynamic group call list associated with the list complete message by validating the dynamic group call list for the first user and for each of the second users;

if the dynamic group call list is invalid, providing a message by the network to the first user that a failure has occurred;

if the dynamic group call list is validated, storing a dynamic group call identity by the first user;

determining by the network whether a dynamic group call identifier is available in a database wherein the database has a plurality of identifiers;

if there is a dynamic group call identifier available in the database, creating a unique group ID for the dynamic group call list from one the plurality of identifiers; and

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if dynamic group call identifier is not available from the plurality of identifiers, selecting by the network a previously used dynamic group call identifier from the plurality of identifiers for the dynamic group call list; and

establishing a group call between the first user and the second users after the dynamic group list is validated and determining whether a dynamic group call identifier is available.

15. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 14, wherein the step of dynamically sending a list complete message includes the step of sending a list by the first user to the network of the group of second users.

16. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 15, wherein there is further included the steps of:

determining by the network that the dynamic group call list is sent by the first user; and

if the dynamic group call list is sent by the first user, storing the dynamic group call list in a database.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

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19. (Previously Amended) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 14, wherein the step of selecting by the network the previously used dynamic group call identifier includes the step of selecting a least used dynamic group call identifier from the plurality of dynamic group call identifiers.

20. (Previously Amended) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 14, wherein the step of selecting by the network the previously used dynamic group call identifier includes the step of selecting a first used dynamic group call identifier from the plurality of group call identifiers.

21. (Currently Amended) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim ~~18~~ 14, wherein there is further included the steps of:

determining by the network whether the first user has requested an immediate dynamic group call; and

if the first user has requested an immediate dynamic group call, initiating the group call to each of the group of second users.

22. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 21, wherein if the first user has not requested an immediate group dynamic call, the network sends a group identification to the first user.

23. (Previously Presented) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 15, wherein there is further included the steps of:

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determining whether the first user sent a dynamic group call list complete message; and

if the first user has sent a dynamic group call list complete message, performing the steps of claims 15, 16 and 19.

24. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 15, wherein there is further included the steps of:

determining by the network whether the first user has sent a member of the group of second users; and

if the member is valid, adding the member to the dynamic group call list.

25. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 24, wherein if the member is invalid, there is further included a step of providing an indication of failure to the first user.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for dynamic group call from a first user to a group of second users via a network including a server, the method for dynamic group call comprising the steps of:

dynamically sending by the first user a dynamic group call list of the group of second users to the server through the network;

sending by the first user a dynamic group call list complete message and an indicator to the server through the network to start the dynamic group call immediately;

validating, by the network, the dynamic group call list;

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selecting, by the network, a unique dynamic group call identification for the dynamic group call list and a time to live parameter corresponding to the unique dynamic group call identification based on network parameters wherein the time to live parameter defines the time for which the unique dynamic group call identification is valid; and

starting the dynamic group call ~~immediately by~~ after the dynamic group call list is validated by the network.

27-32. (Cancelled).

33. (Currently Amended) A method for dynamic group call from a first user to a group of second users via a network including a server, the method for dynamic group call comprising the steps of:

dynamically sending by the first user a dynamic group call list of the group of second users to the server through the network;

sending by the first user an indicator to the server through the network to start the dynamic group call immediately;

sending, by the network, a dynamic group call identity provided by the network to identify the dynamic group call list to each of the group of second users and to the first user; an identity of the first user to the second users, and a time to live parameter to each of the group of second users and to the first user wherein the time to live parameter defines the time for which the dynamic group call identity is valid;

validating, by the network, the dynamic group call identity; and



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launching the dynamic group call to the group of second users and to the first user after the network has validated the dynamic group call identity.

34. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 33, wherein there is further included the steps of:

determining whether each of the group of second users and the first user are valid; and

if each of the group of second users and the first user are invalid, there is further included a step of providing an indication to the first user.

35. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 34, wherein there is further included the steps of:

determining whether the dynamic group call is presently active; and

if the dynamic group call is presently active, rejoining the first user or the second users to the presently active call.

36. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 35, wherein there is further included a step of expanding the dynamic group call list, including a step of expanding a subgroup of the group of second users.

37. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 36, wherein there is further included the steps of:

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after the step of launching, waiting a predetermined time for a response from at least one of the group of second users and the first user; and

if the response is not received within the predetermined time, indicating a failure to the first user.

38. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 37, wherein if the response is received within the predetermined time, there is further included the steps of:

confirming the dynamic group call to the first user; and

interconnecting each of the group of second users and the first user for sustaining a dynamic group call.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously Presented) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 33, wherein there is further included a step of selecting by at least one user of the group of second users and the first user the dynamic group call for which the at least one user has the dynamic group call identity.

42. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 41, wherein there is further included a step of transmitting by the at least one user the dynamic group call identity to the network.

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43. (Original) The method for dynamic group call as claimed in claim 42, wherein there is further included the steps of:

receiving by the network the dynamic group call identity;

if the dynamic group call corresponding to the dynamic group call identity is inactive, re-establishing the dynamic call to each of the group of second users and to the first user; and

if the dynamic group call corresponding to the dynamic group call identity is in progress, rejoining by the network the at least one user to the dynamic group call.

44. (Currently Amended) In a first mobile unit, a method for dynamic group call from the first mobile unit to a group of second mobile units via a network including a server, comprising the steps of:

specifying a predetermined limit as to a number of second mobile units permitted to join the group;

dynamically selecting, by the first mobile unit without the network, at least one other second mobile unit for inclusion in the group of second mobile units;

determining whether a total number of selected second mobile units is within a predetermined limit;

if the total number of selected second mobile units is within the predetermined limit, adding by the first mobile unit the selected second mobile unit to the group of second mobile units;

forwarding the group to the network for validation,

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receiving a group identification for the group and  
establishing a group call between the first user and the group after the group is  
validated and the first user receives the group identification.

45. (Previously Presented) The first mobile unit as claimed in claim 44, wherein there is further included a step of determining by the first mobile unit that the second mobile unit is to be added to the group of second mobile units.

46. (Previously Presented) The first mobile unit as claimed in claim 44, wherein if the number of selected second mobile units is not within the predetermined limit, there is further included a step of providing a message to the first mobile unit indicating a fault.

47. (Currently Amended) In a first mobile unit, a method for dynamic group call from the first mobile unit to a group of second mobile units via a network including a server, comprising the steps of:

specifying a predetermined limit as to a number of second mobile units permitted to join the group;

dynamically selecting, by the first mobile unit without the network or the server, selected second mobile units;

determining whether a number of selected second mobile units is within the predetermined limit;

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if the number of selected second mobile units is within the predetermined limit,  
adding by the first mobile unit the selected second mobile units to the group of second mobile  
units;

forwarding the group to the network for validation,

receiving a group identification for the group and

establishing a group call between the first user and the group after the group is  
validated and the first user receives the group identification.

48. (Previously Presented) The first mobile unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein  
there is further included a step of determining by the first mobile unit that the dynamic group  
call is adding the group of second mobile units.

49. (Previously Presented) The first mobile unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein if  
the selected number of second mobile units is not within the predetermined limit, there is  
further included a step of providing a message to the first mobile unit indicating a fault.

50. (Previously Presented) The first mobile unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the  
step of adding by the first mobile unit includes a step of transferring the by the first mobile unit  
the selected second mobile unit to the network.

51. (Previously Presented) The first mobile unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein  
there is further included a step of determining whether the number of second mobile units  
exceeds a predetermined limit.

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